AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Complete Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (original) For use with an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) receiver, a channel estimator employing a training sequence received through a channel, comprising:

a response assesser configured to compute a channel impulse response of said channel in a time-domain based on said training sequence; and

a reducer, coupled to said response assesser, configured to set designated taps associated with said channel impulse response to substantially zero.

Claim 2. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said designated taps are middle taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 3. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said designated taps are approximately equivalent to a number of guard band taps subtracted from a total number of taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 4. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said designated taps have a power level based on a threshold value.

Claim 5. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said designated taps are selected empirically.

Claim 6. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said designated taps do not include end taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 7. (original) The channel estimator as recited in Claim 1 wherein said training sequence is an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 compliant long training sequence.

Claim 8. (original) For use with an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) receiver, a method of obtaining a channel response estimate, comprising:

receiving a training sequence through said channel;

computing a channel impulse response of said channel based on said training sequence; and

substantially zeroing designated taps associated with said channel impulse response to minimize a noise contribution to a channel response estimate.

Claim 9. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said designated taps are middle taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 10. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said designated taps are approximately equivalent to a number of guard band taps subtracted from a total number of taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 11. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said designated taps have a power level based on a threshold value.

Claim 12. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 further comprising selecting said designated taps empirically.

Claim 13. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 further comprising selecting said designated taps such that end taps associated with said channel impulse response are excluded.

Claim 14. (original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said training sequence is an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 compliant long training sequence.

Claim 15. (original) An orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) receiver, comprising:

a radio frequency (RF) front end that receives a training sequence through a channel;

a data processor, coupled to said RF front end, that transforms said training sequence to a frequency-domain; and

a channel estimator, including:

a response assesser that computes a channel impulse response of said channel in a time-domain based on said training sequence; and

a reducer, coupled to said response assesser, that sets designated taps associated with said channel impulse response to substantially zero.

Claim 16. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said designated taps are middle taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 17. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said designated taps are approximately equivalent to a number of guard band taps subtracted from a total number of taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 18. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said designated taps have a power level based on a threshold value.

Claim 19. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said designated taps are selected empirically.

Claim 20. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said designated taps do not include end taps associated with said channel impulse response.

Claim 21. (original) The OFDM receiver as recited in Claim 15 wherein said training sequence is an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 compliant long training sequence.